REMARKS

The Specification has been amended. Claims 1 - 3, 6 - 7, and 9 - 10 have been amended. Claims 11 - 14 have been added. No new matter has been introduced with these amendments or added claims, all of which are supported in the specification as originally filed. Claims 1 - 14 are now in the application.

I. Rejection under 35 U. S. C. §102(b)

Paragraph 2 on Page 2 of the Office Action dated April 15, 2005 (hereinafter, "the Office Action") states that Claims 1 - 5, 7, 9, and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent 6,098,064 to Pirolli et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have amended their independent Claims 1, 9, and 10 to clarify limitations of their invention. As amended, these claims now explicitly specify limitations which were previously implicit. References to "components" are clarified as "executable application program components" (or simply "application program components"). References to "edgification" have been clarified as "deployment at an edge".

Pirolli's teachings pertain to <u>documents</u> to be cached at a client or a proxy server, such that a client can more quickly retrieve the content. See, for example, col. 1, lines 10 - 11; col. 2, lines 55 - 56; and col. 5, lines 1 - 32 and 57 - 59. Applicants' claimed invention is not directed to prefetching documents, but instead to determining whether application program components are suited for deployment at the edge of a network.

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Applicants find only one reference in Pirolli to executable code, namely in col. 12, lines 15 - 19, stating "... the method for prefetching and caching documents may also be applied to any file retrieved by a client computer. Examples of files other than documents may include executable programs or program data files." (emphasis added). Applicants respectfully submit that their claimed invention is not taught by this reference, which pertains to files "retrieved by a client computer" (in contrast to Applicants' claimed determination of whether application program components "are suited for deployment at an edge of a computing network").

Furthermore, Pirolli has no teaching, nor any discussion, of "determin[ing] whether the ... [executable] application program component is suited for deployment at the edge of the computing network", in contrast to Applicants' claimed invention. (See, for example, lines 17 - 18 of Claim 1.)

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that their independent Claims 1, 9, and 10 are patentable over Pirolli, and that their dependent Claims 2 - 5 and 7 are therefore patentable over Pirolli by virtue of (at least) the patentability of the independent claims from which they depend. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to withdraw the §102 rejection.

II. Rejection under 35 U. S. C. §103(a)

Paragraph 2 on Page 5 of the Office Action states that Claims 6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pirolli in view of U.S. Patent 5,905,666 to Hoffman et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

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Applicants respectfully submit that the teachings of Pirolli cannot be combined with Hoffman to yield the subject matter of their dependent Claims 6 and 8, and that one of skill in the art would not be motivated to attempt such combination. Notably, Pirolli teaches vectors of "keywords" and "links". (See the discussion of elements 516 and 518 of Fig. 5 at col. 7, lines 10 - 16.) In a given set of documents, different ones of those documents might have a varying number of keywords and links, as will be obvious, and therefore the vectors taught be Pirolli may have varying numbers of elements. Matrix multiplication, on the other hand, requires that the vectors are of a particular size, such that the vector elements can be multiplied by the matrix elements. Matrix multiplication does not lend itself to varying-sized vectors of the type taught by Pirolli.

Furthermore, as discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that their independent Claim 1 is patentable as currently presented. Dependent Claims 6 and 8, which depend from Claim 1, are therefore also deemed patentable over the cited references by virtue of the allowability of Claim 1.

The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to withdraw the §103 rejection.

III. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejected claims, withdrawal of all presently outstanding rejections, and allowance of all claims at an early date.

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Respectfully submitted,

Marcia L. Doubet

Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 40,999

Customer Number for Correspondence: 43168

Phone: 407-343-7586 Fax: 407-343-7587